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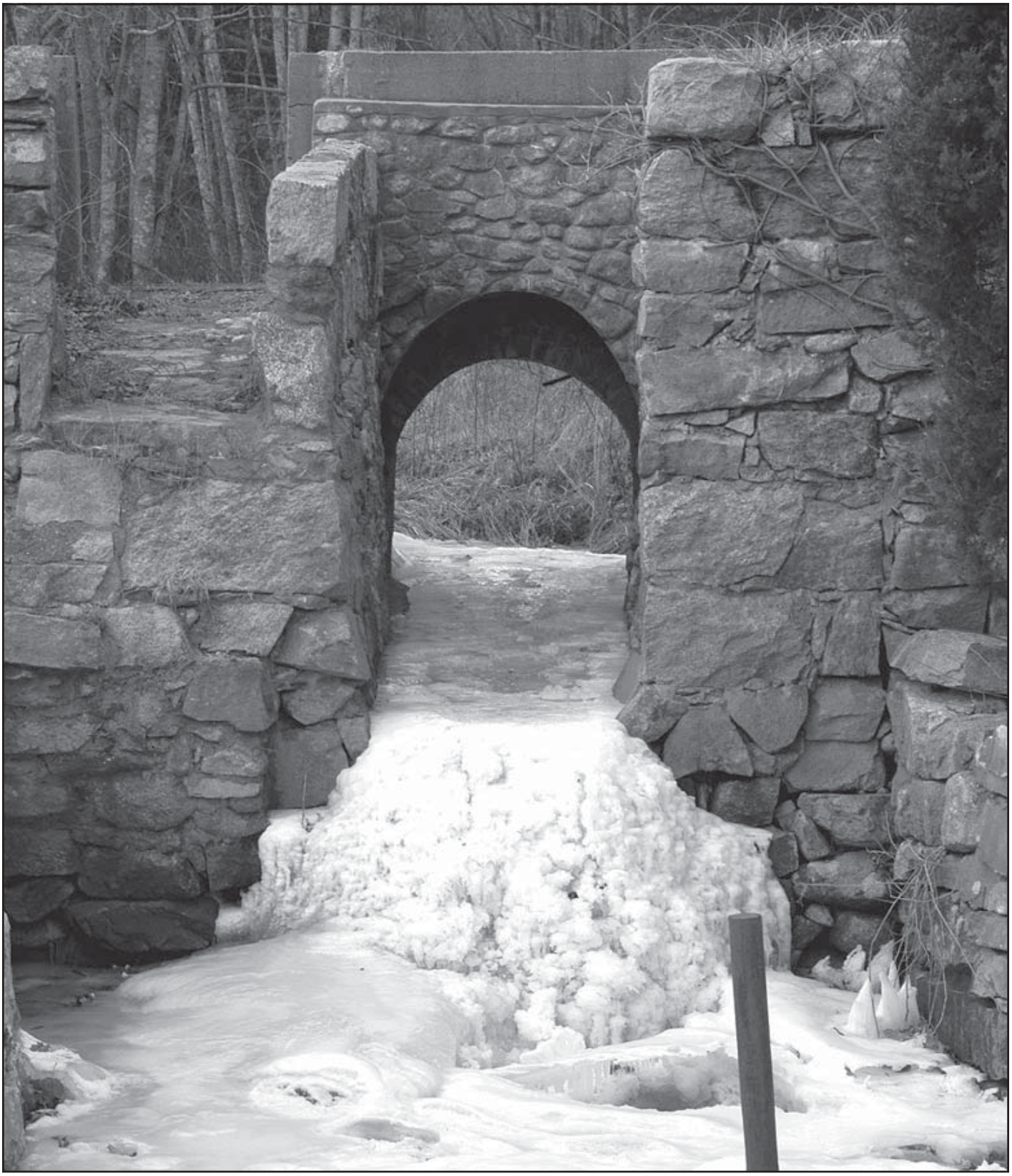

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

From Your Marion CCBT Team.

Pictured: Front Left to Right: **Billie Smith**, Customer Service Teller, **Danielle Zora**, Teller, **Jessica Blackledge**, Teller, **Christine Winters**, Senior Financial Advisor, **Abbey Kendrigan**, Customer Service Teller

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Tricentennial Celebration

Rochester Church Kicks Off Anniversary

Last Sunday, Rochester's First Congregational Church, on the green at Rochester Center began a year long celebration of its 300th anniversary with two visitors from the past. These visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Arnold, the church's first minister and his wife portrayed by Charlie and Pat Tate of Mattapoisett. Following the church service, they were welcomed at a coffee hour. The gathering also honored a church member from the more recent past. Martha Fearing died February 23, 2002 at age 71, after a lifetime involvement with the First Congregational Church. Always low-keyed and unassuming, Martha was an ardent worker, usually behind the scenes, not only for the church, but for the many groups of which she was a part

Some of the many events that are being planned for this year include: more visitors from the past; a reunion of the Men's Brotherhood, formed at the urging of Reverend Lewis Hastings in 1953 which continued to benefit Rochester and surrounding communities in endless ways until the early 80s; a reunion of the Pilgrim Fellowship, the youth group started in the 1940s by Reverend J. Arthur Martin, which was carried on by subsequent pastors until the mid-70s; the annual Ladies Luncheon; and fitting participation in various town events.

Reverend Dr. Leo Christian, the newly installed pastor, shares a love of history and has a desire to use the church's past history, that was so intricately tied to Rochester's beginning, as an inspiration for the church to serve the community with ethical, spiritual values in the future.

In The Beginning

We all know today that our first church of Rochester began in the little meetinghouse that was built in 1699 and stood within the cemetery for more than 100 years. The First Congregational Church has existed without reorganization for 300 years. Members of the same old Rochester families have contributed to church support and held membership or office through successive generations.

The First Minister

In 1683, Mr. Shiverick made an attempt to establish a ministry at "Little Neck" in Sippican, preaching first at Minister's Rock and then in the little temporary house of worship there. That first meetinghouse was very small and cost 20 pounds. It was later sold and made into two corn houses, to give an idea of its size. In 1687, when Minister Shiverick moved

Above: *The Marion Art Center will present Gypsy LaZizza's Chick Band for their second annual "Valentine's Day Love Fest" on February 15, 2003 at 7:30 pm. Band members (left to right) Sheila Furtado, Beverly Hilliard, Elaine Cronin and Nancy Sparklin will be performing in a cabaret-style setting at the Marion Art Center and guests are invited to bring refreshments. Tickets are $7 and reservations can be made by calling 508-748-1266. (Photo courtesy of Marion Art Center).*

On the cover: *The Tub Mill Brook, located on Route 6 across from Mahoney's Oil in Mattapoisett, was frozen solid this past weekend in the aftermath of a week-long winter cold spell which had temperatures dipping consistently into the single digits. It would appear that Old Man Winter is here to stay ... at least for another month or two. (Photo by and courtesy of Tim Smith).*

Above: *Charlie and Patricia Tate of Mattapoisett recently portrayed Reverend Samuel Arnold, first minister of the First Congregational Church in Rochester, and his wife, Sarah last weekend during an event to kick off the 300th Anniversary of the historic church in Rochester center. There is a year-full of events planned to commemorate the anniversary. (Photo courtesy of Betty Beaulieu).*

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to Falmouth, **Reverend Samuel Arnold**, son of Minister Arnold of Marshfield, was invited to settle as minister. He was given a whole proprietary share of 200 acres of land on condition that "he continue in the work of the ministry among us until his death." Reverend Arnold began preaching in that little meeting-house near Minister Rock. He was ordained in 1684. But few new settlers were coming to this part of the town. The flow of population was from this point towards Great Neck, Wareham, Leonard's Pond (EastOver Farm area), and upper Sippican Village. In 1685 Lots had been laid out: "in the woods' at Rochester Center, and before long settlers began to find there way there, and into the more northern parts of the town. The religious impulses that started in the little temporary house of worship where Mr. Shirverick and Mr. Arnold preached for a few years transmitted to all the churches that occupy the Old Rochester territory.

The year 1694 was an important one in the annuals of Rochester. About this time many changes were made in the land holdings. Lots were exchanged, or were "thrown up," and new ones drawn. Minister Arnold now came into possession of a land on Vaughan Hill Road, other uplands, meadows and swamps (a total of 200 acres).

About this time also a definite effort was begun by the town to establish its permanent center. In 1697 the owners of the current church property, Ichabod Wiswell and John Rouse, who originally purchased it from William Paybody, now "threw it up, and received in return a like number of acres in the 'undi-vided'" land elsewhere in town.

On the new ministry lands, thus chosen at the Center, the town now voted to lay out a burying ground, and a training field, and "a place to sett a meetinghouse," while part of the

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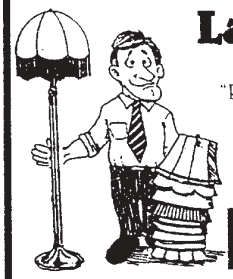

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land was 'to ly and remaine the Ministry." A woodlot to the north of Rochester Church is still known as "The Ministry." Although the general location of the central public lands of Rochester was decided upon in 1697, there were still some months of doubt and discussion as to the exact site for the important building, which was to be the center for the town's civic and religious life. February 2, 1699, it was "voted that the meetinghouse shall be sit on the westerly sid of the long Bridg."

This obscure and apparently incredible statement on the pages of the town's books has been one of several confusing factors which led to the loss, during several generation, of all real knowledge or agreement as to the actual location of the important meeting-house built by the town in 1699. It did not seem possible that there was any "long Bridg" at Rochester Center. But further study has brought to light facts bearing on

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this question. This was a part of the oldest road from Rochester Center toward Little Neck and Sippican (present day Marion), the road that was in use when the meeting-house was built. It ran south of the present day Rochester General Store, near the new police station. Between this point and the burying ground much of the land is low, and though at present it is dry and arable, this was not always the case. In imagination one can seem to see a stretch of corduroy road made of pine logs, crossing this ancient brook and the trout brook and the wet lands near by, and known perhaps to the early settlers of Rochester as "the long Brgd."

But wherever the structure called the "long Bridge" or the "corduroy road" may have been, the location of the meeting-house is no longer in doubt. From independent and authentic sources, we know today that the meeting-house stood a few rods westward from that low tract referred to, and within the limits of the town's burying-ground, which is indeed the only natural place to look for it.

In 1699 the Meetinghouse was finally built. It measured "24 by 26 ft. and 10 ft. between joints, with a gable on each side." It looked like a barn roof on a nearly square building. It had "a pulpit and flours and girts for three gallerys, with three seats apew." This seems to mean that the gallery ran around two sides and the back of the building probably three pews in depth. The building was paid for by a free-will offering that amounted to 50 pounds. The building committee included Samuel Prince, the big land owner, Peter Blackmer, who built the mill and was the builder of the church, and Mark Haskell, who had come in a hurry from Salem, his horse galloping quick and fast to escape serving as juryman at a witchcraft trial. The meetinghouse served as both town hall and church as the political history of Rochester is reflected directly in the various religious precincts,

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which grew up as the town became populated.

The building of the town's meetinghouse in 1699 opened the way for the church organization that had been so long delayed. Reverend Samuel Arnold had preached sixteen years before he could establish an organized church. It was during this time that the his long religious efforts began to bear fruit, and October 13, 1703, the First Church became a reality and he wrote in the old church book, "It hath pleased our gracious Lord to shine in the dark corner of this wilderness, and visit this dark spot of ground with the dayspring from on high through his tender mercy to settle a church according to the order of the gospel."

Seven Christian men of Rochester, in addition to Mr. Arnold, signed the convenant that day, the names of the signers being Samuel Arnold, Abraham Holmes, Samuel Hammond,

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Isaac Holmes, Jacob Bumpus, John Benson, Thomas Dexter, Anthony Coomes. Abraham and Isaac Holmes "lived beside" a little pond," now known as Snow's Pond. Abraham, the first deacon and the first selectman of Rochester, was married to Reverend Arnold's sister, Elizabeth. Samuel Hammond was one of the original proprietors who drew his house lot at Mattapoisett. Jacob Bumpus lived in the Wareham section. Thomas Dexter of the Dexter Lane family and probably John Benson had homes at the center, while Anthony Coomes lived beside the mill at Leonard's Pond (EastOver Farm) on land that was given him on condition that he would do the work of a smith in that locality for a certain number of years. Although most of the original members lived near or in the center, the church soon attracted people in all parts of Rochester.

There were not many homes in Rochester at this time but the scattered interests of the growing villages of Mattapoisett and Sippican were now in a measure united. At a Town Meeting held June 4, 1700, it was voted to tax the inhabitants at a rate of thirty shillings to support the necessary changes arising in the Town. The first taxes were levied. All the citizens were taxed for the church support. All questions of church funds, repair and care of the meetinghouse, salary or even choice of minister were in the hands of the townspeople.

With this change in the town of Rochester in the year 1700, the period of beginnings may be said to be passed, and with the new century the town entered on its second stage of history, an interesting era of general town development. Reverend Arnold had been an important participant and contributor to this development. Reverend Arnold was also an important landowner in early Rochester. His extensive holdings were the woodlot # 30 on Vaughan hill, where his homestead farm was located, other lots near his farm added in 1698, 20

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acres by the sea in Mattapoisett, 20 acres called the common field, 72 acres in East Rochester/Wareham, and 96 acres on the Road too Middleboro.

In addition to his ministerial duties he maintained his farm and raised a family. Besides preaching and burying the dead, Old Minister Arnold had to farm, and teach ambitious boys who wanted to go to Harvard College, and pull teeth, and give out opium, and saffron, and elder, yellow dock, and snake root to the suffering parishioners, when their home stock failed to relieve. Somewhat later Mr. Arnold's successor, Reverend Timothy Ruggles wrote of Mr. Arnold that "the neighboring ministers who survived him esteemed him as a worthy minister and approved him as a good Divine, but not so well skilled in church discipline as some others." In contemplating this defect, however, it is well to remember that skill in church discipline counted for more among ministerial qualifications in the 18th century that it does at present.

The first movement to provide a school in Rochester occurred in 1704, when a rate of ten pounds was voted to be put into Minister Arnold's hands for the support of a schoolmaster, and the next year the selectmen were empowered to engage some able person to teach children and youth to reed and right," at a wage of two shillings a week with "dyet washing and lodging. Some other references to a school are made about 1705, but exactly what was done is not made clear, nor whether any teacher was really engaged until 1711.

All in the Family

Samuel was born May 9, 1649. He was the son of Reverend Samuel Arnold, who was born in Sandwich and married Elizabeth Biddle at Yarmouth before being ordained as the third minister of Marshfield in 1658. Records state Samuel was born at Yarmouth on May 9, 1649. He and his wife Sarah Holmes were married in 1671 in Marshfield. She had been born in Scituate, MA in 1646.

Their daughter Mary (1672-1756) married John Hammond in 1691, and they built a fine house near to the herring weir at Mattapoisett. Sarah (1674- 1784) married Benjamin Dexter of the prominent Dexter Lane family. Many of Mr. Arnold's extensive land holdings passed finally into the hands of his Dexter grandchildren. Son Samuel Arnold Jr., a

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deacon in the First Church, married and had five children: Samuel (1713), Josiah (1715), Sarah (1717), John (1719), and Seth (1721). The Reverend's daughter, Elizabeth married Richard Bourne and her daughter Elizabeth married Charles Sturtevant and succeeded to the ownership of the family house on "Arnold's Plain at the Center." Many descendants of the family still live in Rochester.

Mr. Arnold died February 1, 1709 leaving a church of 35 members — 17 males and 18 females.

Growing Pains

On November 22, 1710, the Reverend Timothy Ruggles was ordained. The town built a house for him at the center, near the present day General Store, which was his stable, remained in his family well into the 20th century. Reverend Ruggles served the church for many years. During the pastorate of Reverend

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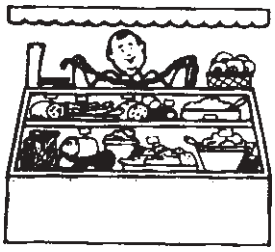

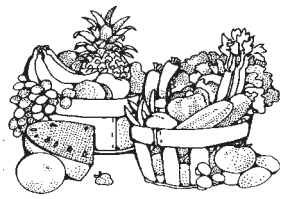

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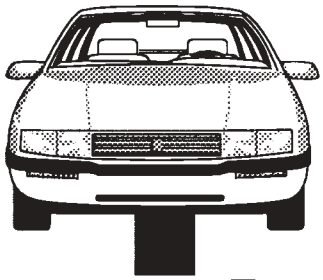

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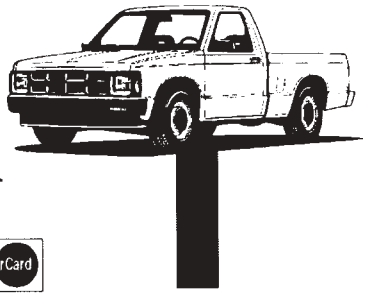

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Ruggles, the membership of the church rapidly increased, as did the population of the town. The first meetinghouse was no longer large enough. In 1717 the town built another meetinghouse. Churches were organized in the villages of Mattapoisett (1736), Wareham (1739), and North Rochester (1753).

The First Parish of Rochester built a new meetinghouse higher up on the Common in 1760, the old meetinghouse being used afterwards for town purposes only. Reverend Timothy Ruggles died after serving for fifty-eight years, in which 30 members were received into the church.

The next minister was Reverend Jonathan Moore who served for twenty-three years during which time, 95 members were received.

Reverend Oliver Cobb preached the last sermon in the 1760 meetinghouse on May 12, 1837. The building was then taken down.

The present church building was dedicated in September, 1837, having been designed by Solomon K. Eaton, who was well-known for his ecclesiastical buildings, as evident in the many local churches he designed in Mattapoisett, Marion, and North Rochester. The First Congregational Church founded the Rochester Academy in 1836 and built in 1838 containing a vestry for the church. The church has had several interior alteration and additions funded and donated by its congregation and generous residents. The bell was purchased by the Ladies Sewing Circle in 1850 and the Tracker Pipe Organ purchased in 1866. The church was closed for several months in 1879 and renovated extensively through donations from Mrs. E.G. Leonard. More recently, a large Fellowship Hall was constructed in 1993 to the rear of the church to serve the growing needs of the members and the community.

The Academy, founded by the First Congregational Church in 1836, was built in 1838 containing a vestry for the church. It was an important educational movement in Rochester Center in the early 19th century allowing Rochester to be recognized as a country town that held education and intellectual betterment as a priority. In 1905 the town leased a portion of the Academy for school purposes to relieve the congestion in the town's schoolhouses. Today the Vestry houses the church office and Sunday school rooms.

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The ORR Gridiron Club would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people for all their help during this past season: The administration of ORR: Mr. William Cooper, Superintendent, Mr. Bruce Clarke, Principal, Mr. Al Laboranti, Vice Principal, Mr. Bob Catalini, AD, and Mrs. Cheryl Marcosa, Assistant to the AD for all their support during the season… to Chase Canopy for the tent, tables and chairs to feed the team during pre-season training when it became apparent the cafeteria wouldn't be ready…to Lysa and David Riccardi of Blue Point Restaurant for feeding the team not once but twice. Your lasagna is INCREDIBLE! To Bette Fleming Inc. for donating a pole so we could raise the Bulldog Flag again and again…to the Rochester Fire and Highway Depts., and also the Mattapoisett and Marion Fire Depts. for their help with the bonfire on one of the coldest nights…to the Marion Police Brotherhood Association for their generous donation…to Shaw's Supermarket for their generous support of our concession stand throughout the season…to the parents for all their help with concessions, spaghetti suppers, and anywhere else we needed them. Without involved parents like you this booster club wouldn't be the success that it is year after year. To Bay Pointe Golf Club for all their help in making our annual golf tournament such a fun and successful event. To Dave Garro for supplying the staging and Steve Duarte for climbing up there to tape the games for us even though Michael has gone on to college…to Tara Medeiros for taking such great pictures at all the games…to Wareham and Fairhaven High Schools for graciously being our "homes away from home"…to the fans, who showed up for every game in all kinds of weather and cheered the team to victory… to the coaches and their assistants, whose dedication to our sons and the game are surpassed by none…and lastly to the ORR Bulldogs for what has been an incredible season. Your courage, heart, and dedication to perfection have made us proud. Thanks for the ride!

Gary Laboa, Pres.
Cindy Dawicki, V.P.
Kathy Lopes, Treas.
Doreen Laboa, Sec.

Thanks from this year's officers:
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Doreen Laboa – Secretary

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In July 2001, a lightning strike, which caused smoke and water damage, became a blessing in disguise. Insurance money along with a $10,000 bequest were gratefully used for extensive restoration and renovation. Today the Vestry houses the church office and Sunday School classrooms.

Mattapoisett Selectmen's Meeting

January 27, 2003

By Eletha Yeaton

A regular meeting of the Mattapoisett Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Paul Lambalot on Monday, January 27 at 7:00 pm. Also present were Selectman Raymond Andrews, Selectman Barry Denham, and Executive Secretary Carol Adams.

The board unanimously approved minutes of meetings of January 13, 14, 15, 21, and 23, and the Executive Session of January 13, 2003. After signing necessary vouchers and bills, signatures were required for the following:

• Police Chief Mary Lyons recommended the appointment of Donna L. Wunschel, 384 Main Street, Fairhaven and Scott R. LeBlanc, 3 Gary Drive, Mattapoisett to fill vacancies created by the retirement of Edward Pina and the resignation of Paul Magee. Selectman Denham welcomed the new appointees and noted that it was cheaper to fill the vacancies than to pay overtime.

• The appointment of Paul E. Lambalot as the citizen-at-large member of the Elementary School Build-

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ing Committee to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ronald Merlo.

• Marine Advisory Board (MAB) Chairman Michael Costello submitted the name of Robert D. Lee, 139 North Street to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Anthony Weatherford.

• NStar is seeking permission to locate underground conduit within the following town ways: Laura Lane, Bethany lane, Abby Lane, Summer Street, and Melissa Anne Lane.

• Letter thanking Ron Merlo for his time as a member of the Elementary School Building Committee.

All of the above were passed unanimously. The Selectmen then noted that the town is very fortunate to have knowledgeable people bring their expertise to town boards and serve so faithfully.

Ms. Adams then discussed the meetings scheduled for the next few weeks:

• Wednesday, January 29 at 6:30pm – Selectmen with department heads concerning budgets.

Regular Selectmen's meetings for the month of

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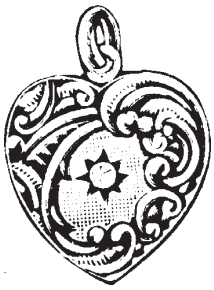

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February are scheduled as follows: Monday, February 3; Thursday, February 16 (tentative): Tri-Town Selectmen and Finance Committees concerning the ORR District Budget; and Monday, February 24.

On Monday, February 17, the Town Hall will be closed in observance of President's Day.

Outgoing correspondence consisted of a letter to Arnold J. Cestari Jr. relative to his inquiries pertaining to the bike path, and a memorandum to the Ship Street Realty Trust in answer to the Trust's concerns relating to the placement of dinghy racks at the end of Ship Street.

The board then discussed the following incoming correspondence for the week:

• *DEADLINE DATE OF FRIDAY, MARCH 7* has been set for Articles, Petitions, and Street Acceptances for insertion into the May, 2003 Annual Town Meeting warrant. Ms. Adams stated that if a department head knows an article will not be ready by the deadline, they must contact her about the content of the article.

• A copy of the letter sent by Town Counsel Daniel C. Perry to AT&T Broadband citing the various General Laws which require AT&T to install cable service to Old Hammondtown School at no charge to the town.

• Correspondence from Superintendent of Schools, William R. Cooper seeking the board's authorization to declare various equipment at Center School as surplus.

• Also received was a letter form Tim O'Connor, Associate Superintendent for Finance and Planning. Mr. O'Connor advised of the availability of surplus equipment at ORR High School. Tri-town municipal departments will have first priority until January 24. Any property not taken will then be made available to the public through an open bid process until January 31.

• Police Chief Mary Lyons advised that the Executive Office of Public Safety has awarded the Police Department with a grant of $20,500. This grant is offered specifically to purchase equipment that can be utilized to protect against and investigate terrorism. Funding has not yet been released and no equipment has been purchased.

• Fire Chief Ronald Scott seeks permission to utilize Center School as a possible training site to coincide with a federal training grant received by Mattapoisett and

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All bids must be received by Friday, February 7th at 5:00 pm.

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• A public records workshop, sponsored by the Secretary of State's Office, will be conducted at the Halifax Town Hall on Thursday, February 27 at 10:00 am. Town officials and employees are urged to attend.

• Public notice was received of the Waterways application by Daniel J. and Lori Andrade to construct and maintain a pile supported timber pier with gangway, float, and float piles at 3 Daisy Way. DEP will consider all written comments on this application received within 30 days of January 16, 2003.

• Public notice is received of the Waterways application by Michael Esposito to license and maintain an existing seawall and groin and proposed steps at 18 Ned's Point Road. DEP will consider all written comments within 30 days of January 23, 2003.

• Received correspondence from Representative William Straus with regard to Massachusetts Estuaries Project and Eel Pond Study. He has received a letter from Dr. Brian Howes of the Estuaries Project who indicates that the bike path would only become a factor in the Eel Pond study if the design calls for the stabilization of the current channels. He further stated that the present bike path design appears to be consistent with potential future management alternatives for Eel Pond.

The board also discussed the following items:

• A letter will be sent to Ron Merlo thanking him for his service on the Elementary School Building Committee.

• On February 8, 15, and 22, the Barnstable Fire Academy will use Center School for training the Fire Departments of the tri-town area.

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• On Monday, February 24, the contractor will take possession of Center School to begin work on the addition.

• On Thursday, February 13 at 7:00 pm at Center School, there will be a meeting for parents and neighbors concerning what will take place during construction. Fencing will go up around the site and anyone not connected with the construction will be considered to be trespassing.

Selectman Andrews reported on the commencement of work on Center School and the hope that they will be able to sign off on Old Hammondtown School soon. The move from Center School students to Old Hammondtown went smoothly.

The problem with the sprinkler freezing at ORR was a temporary problem because some construction had not yet been completed. Old Hammondtown now has an alarm within the water pipes that will alert the Fire Department if the pipes freeze. This winter has been a good test of systems which are affected by cold weather.

There being no further matters to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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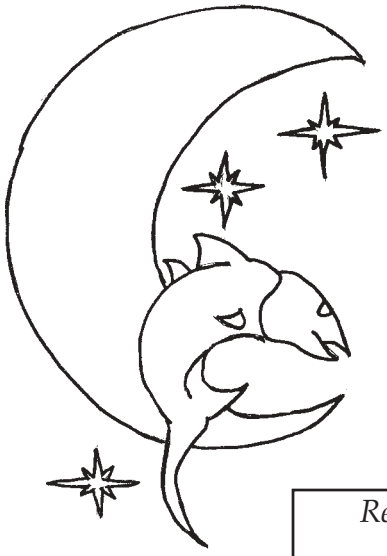

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Rochester Selectmen's Meeting

January 27, 2003

By Kenneth J. Souza

A regular meeting of the Rochester Board of Selectmen was called to order on Monday, January 27 at 6:30 pm by Chairman Patricia Ryan. Also present were Selectman Naida Parker, Selectman Richard Nunes, Town Administrator James Huntoon, and Administrative Assistant Veronica Lafreniere.

The board first unanimously voted to go into Executive Session with Police Chief Paul Magee and Chief Dispatcher Kathy O'Brien to discuss a pending criminal investigation matter. At 7:05 pm they returned to Open Session and first voted to approve the minutes of the January 13 meeting.

Chairman Ryan then read an Open Letter to the Voters of Rochester to respond to some of the allegations made in print recently, specifically articles in *The Sentinel* concerning the Police/Communications Building.

"*The Sentinel* has done five pages on the police station, the Police Chief ... and I've had it up to here," Chairman Ryan said. "I certainly had complaints, and they were all taken care of. That building was not changed by the Board of Selectmen, it was the building that the voters approved."

At 7:15 pm the board met with Police Chief Paul Magee to review the FY 2004 proposed department budget. Chief Magee said he basically reproduced the budget prepared by previous Police Chief William Przybylek, but he has changes he'd like to make. "This is the budget I inherited, because I haven't had any opportunity to (rework it)," Chief Magee said. "I saw some opportunity to make some changes, but I wanted to bring it forward first. Before I made all kinds of changes, I wanted to see what the feelings of the board were."

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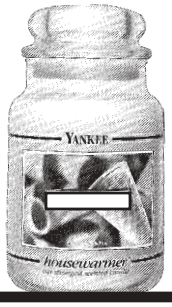

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"If you could briefly give us an overview of what you'd like to change ... and what you're looking for from us, then that would expedite the process," Chairman Ryan said. "There is still enough time for you to prepare a budget based on some things that you'd like to do."

"At least (Chief Przybylek) has done some of the leg work for you," Selectman Parker said.

"My intent tonight was just to get some initial input from the board," Chief Magee said. He said he would bring his own proposed budget back to the board at a later date.

The board next approved a Range Permit for the Sippican Rod and Gun Club, voted to sign a voucher for the C.W. Maxim Fund, and then approved payment of an invoice in the amount of $4,656 for Perry, Hicks, Crotty and Deshaies, LLP, for legal services rendered.

Mr. Huntoon noted there will be a reception for new Police Chief Paul Magee on Saturday, February 1 from 9:00 to 11:00 am at the Rochester Senior Center. This will be an open reception for all residents to come and meet the new Police Chief.

The board received a letter from the Law Offices of Attorney Richard J. Manning Jr. offering their assistance to the town in collecting any unpaid or back taxes. The board agreed to forward this information to Tax Collector Tom Gayoski for consideration.

Town Accountant Claudette Coutu sent a letter to the board requesting that they appoint Kathy McHenry as a "Temporary Town Accountant" while she is on vacation

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during the week of February 10 - 21. With that, the board voted to appoint Ms. McHenry as Temporary Town Accountant to sign the warrants while Ms. Coutu is on vacation.

Selectman Parker next moved to appoint a Memorial School Building Committee to look at future expansion and renovation needs for the school, which the board unanimously voted to form.

The board then proposed a formal charge statement to the committee, whose objective is to look into the "expansion and renovation of Rochester Memorial School." The committee's key responsibilities would include:

• Study the expansion and renovation needs of

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• Review the Long Range Enrollment Study for the Rochester Memorial School as outlined in the Kaestle Boos Associations, Inc. report;

• Review any and all documents relating to the Rochester Memorial School, including but not limited to, maintenance and building records; and

• Review various expansion/renovation options and costs therein to present to the Board of Selectmen.

The board voted to charge the committee with these reponsibilities and then proposed the suggested makeup of the committee as follows: one member of the Board of Selectmen; one School Committee member; one Finance Committee (FinCom) member; one Rochester Memorial School Administrator (Sue Norton has been suggested); one Memorial School teacher, recommended by the Parents-Teachers Organization (PTO); one parent recommended by the PTO; Brian Ouellette of the Memorial School Maintenance Department; and four members at large from the community.

The board has received letters of interest from a few residents for the "at large" positions, but they are still seeking volunteers to serve on the committee. Those interested should send letters to the Board of Selectmen, c/o Rochester Town Hall, 1 Constitution Way, Rochester, MA 02770.

"This is a good chance for people who want to serve," Selectman Nunes said.

Selectman Nunes also wished to offer a statement to the newly-formed Rochester Memorial School Building

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Committee, cautioning them to find a way to meet the school's needs while "keeping an eye on costs."

"The present proposal by Kaestle Boos Associates has two options: Option 1 costs $14 million and Option 2 costs $12.6 million," Selectman Nunes read. "In light of the state's fiscal crisis, I feel that the Rochester Memorial School expansion project will receive little to no state aid. The town will pay for the entire project up front and will have to wait up to ten years for state reimbursement, if there is any. Furthermore, the state's reimbursement percentage for such projects continues to be reduced.

"The project comes at a time where the Town of Rochester continues to pay for the 1989 Rochester Memorial School expansion. The town also has to pay for the Old Rochester Regional School expansion as well. It is my hope to expand the Rochester Memorial School so that it can continue to provide quality education to our children and at the same time not tax out senior citizens and middle income families. I understand that everyone wants a slice of the pie, but there are only so many slices of the pie to go around."

Selectman Parker then suggested the town look into the tax incentive program offered by the state which allows residents to volunteer their services and, in turn, get up to a $500 abatement on their taxes. She said it might be a good opportunity for people to work at the Council on Aging and other town agencies. The program would require approval of Town Meeting.

On that note, the board next discussed setting a

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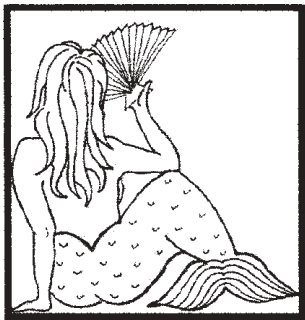
timeline for accepting articles for the June 2, 2003 Town Meeting warrant.

In other matters, the board:

• Accepted a letter of resignation from Richard Howland who is stepping down from the Rochester Housing Partnership. Those interested in filling this vacancy should submit letters to the Board of Selectmen, c/o Rochester Town Hall.

• Received a letter of appreciation from former Police Chief William Przybylek thanking the town for the opportunity to serve them and for the farewell reception held for him.

• Received payment from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Agency (MIIA) in the amount of



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$2,949 for damages incurred to the computers at the Police Station on July 5, 2002.

There being no further matters to come before the board, they unanimously voted to adjourn for the evening at 8:10 pm.

Sports Shorts

Rochester Basketball

The **Rochester Adult Basketball League** will be starting its games one hour earlier each Thursday. Games will now begin at 6:00 pm at the Memorial School Gym and run until 9:00 pm. All adult Rochester residents are invited to be a part of this program. Please enter the gym through the rear doors. If you have any questions, please contact **Justin Shay** at **508-763-8764** or **justinshay@attbi.com**.

Marion Ice Skating

Family Time Ice Skating will be held at the **Tabor Academy Rink** on Front Street in Marion from **12:00 noon to 2:00 pm** on the following dates: Sunday, February 2, 2003; Sunday, February 9, 2003; Sunday, February 16, 2003; Tuesday, February 18, 2003; Thursday, February 20, 2003; and Sunday, February 23, 2003.

For safety reasons, hats, gloves, and ice skates are required. No earmuffs! Helmets are required for children under six and beginners. Sleds, strollers and chairs are *not* permitted. Horseplay is not allowed. Children may not be carried while on the ice.

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News Submission Policy

The Wanderer gladly accepts any and all news and press release items from local non-profit organizations for publication on a weekly basis. The deadline for submission of said items is **Monday at 12:00 noon** for publication in that week's edition. Due to the increasing number of submissions, however, publication of press material is *never* guaranteed. *The Wanderer* will make every effort to publish timely news items and announcements as the subject warrants and as often as spacing allows. All press material must be submitted in writing via fax, e-mail or surface mail, and must be typed or word-processed. *We cannot accept any handwritten material or news items via telephone, no matter how brief.*

Photographs of area events and newsmakers are also accepted and encouraged. *The Wanderer* accepts well-lit and clearly-defined color or black and white photographs for publication provided they include a brief summary of the event or subject. Due to processing and/or cropping requirements, we cannot return photographs. Please make sure you retain your negatives or have a copy made before submitting photographs for publication. Like news items, the deadline for photos is **Monday at 12:00 noon** and the publication of photographs is also subject to spacing constraints and therefore cannot be guaranteed.

All submitted copy is subject to alterations and/or condensation as space allows at the editor's discretion.

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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

There has been a great deal written in *The Sentinel* about the (Rochester) Public Safety Building, both by reporters and by those who choose to write "anonymously." I will willingly take the responsibility for any actions of mine. I will *not* take responsibility for the "suppositions" of others who have chosen not to do their homework.

Here are some facts concerning the Public Safety Building.

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Animal Advice

Jay Gould, DVM

VOMITING CATS

I have 2 cats. Both have vomited in the house a few times a week since I have owned them. The 5 year old female really pigs out. She eats her dry cat food really fast and then vomits it about 5 minutes later. We try feeding her small, frequent meals and that seems to help but it is labor intensive. Do you have any thoughts?

Cats that eat their food very rapidly and then vomit need to have their food intake slowed down. Try covering the food with 2-4 golf balls. The cat will have to nudge the balls out of the way to get a mouthfull and this will slow down their eating. Changing from dry to canned food may also help but will make more of a mess if it doesn't stay down.

My other cat has always vomited 3-4 times a week. She vomits food sometimes and just yellow frothy bile at others. Occasionally there is a clump of hair in the vomit. She seems healthy and happy otherwise. What can I do to help her?

This may be more difficult to manage. Cats with this pattern of vomiting may have a number of problems. Two of the more common are a bacterial infection in the stomach caused by Helicobacter felis or a condition called inflammatory bowel disease. Try changing your cat's diet to a different kind of food. Often the use of a premium cat food will help. If 2-3 diet changes over a couple of months is not helpful then discuss the problem with your veterinarian.

Dr. Gould can be reached at the Mattapoisett Animal Hospital (508) 758-6400

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The Town Meeting voted for a Public Safety Building that was recommended by the "Building Committee." I was not a member of that Building Committee. I had been the Finance Committee's (FinCom) representative to the original Public Safety Building Committee when it included the Fire Department.

There were *no* substantive changes made to the plans approved by Town Meeting. Any and all changes were voted at Board of Selectmen's meetings, which are open to the public.

I was quoted as saying that we did not need sally ports (at the station).

What I said was that we only need one sally port. The other "space" is being used to store bikes, a snow blower, and other "stuff." It is not used as a sally port. As a matter of fact, we had to vote to approve additional work to put in a cement divider with chain link fencing to separate the two areas in order to protect the safety of the officers, by keeping prisoners out of the area.

I was quoted as having said that we would need a cook.

What I said was that our cells were "holding" cells, not "jail" cells. We did not want to be in the "jail business," as that would require a cook because we would have to feed prisoners meals.

I did not say we paid Plymouth County, but that we paid Wareham for the use of their cells, and only had to pay Plymouth County if we required a matron.

There is not now nor has there ever been any carpeting on the "second floor" of the building. Nor is the area finished in any way. It is a large open space, filled with ductwork for the building and accessible by a stairway. In most homes it would be considered the "attic."

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An office or two could be made upstairs, if needed, in the future. In the very distant future. This would require closing in the areas with walls and doors, and putting down flooring or carpeting. The building was constructed to allow for an elevator should it ever be needed.

If anyone had any concerns regarding the building, they should first be sure of the facts, and then come to the Selectmen. We have had at least two Open House events (with tours) and, to my knowledge, the Selectmen have not heard anything from the public.

These are only a few of the comments published by *The Sentinel* in their "anonymous" speak-out section and a story written based on an anonymous tip. It would be refreshing if the paper occasionally checked out some of the information, instead of trying to fuel discontent by inadequate reporting.

Is the (police) building perfect? No, it is not. I don't know of any building (or home) that couldn't be better! Hindsight is always 20/20! But the town has a good functional building that it can be proud of, and it was done within budget. We have a building that will serve our town for many years to come.

Sincerely,
Patricia E. Ryan, Chairman
Rochester Board of Selectmen

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To the Editor:

It was a blustery, cold and chilly evening at Old Hammondtown School. With wind gusts bringing the wind chill into play at -10 degrees, you would have thought that the older generation of Mattapoisett would have stayed home instead of enduring the biting wind across the parking lot while making their way to the (Special) Town Meeting at OHS, but they didn't.

As I sat in the back of the cafeteria, I noticed only a few families in attendance. As the time clicked by, youngsters were beginning to droop as their bedtimes passed, and their parents patiently waited for the chance to cast their vote for the educational expense appropriation. The man in front of me sat motionless in his chair as not to disturb his young son in his lap who breathed heavily on his shoulder. The boy in blissful sleep, unaware of the discussions and the possible ramifications if we changed the title of Executive Secretary to Town Administrator, or if the Assistant to the Town Administrator should be under contract or under the Personnel Board, union or non-union. His father, caught in emotional turmoil, second-guessing his decision to drag his son out on such a cold night just so he could cast his vote for education. I sat there and wondered how long it would carry on. I wondered how long this father in front of me would wait. It was 9:12 pm ... but wait he did.

The majority of the voters who came ... sure didn't look like they had children in the elementary school system. No sir-eee ... and I regrettably thought they were there to vote "down" the appropriation of the much-needed $121,000. Shame on ME! I stand corrected, I'm glad to say.

It says a lot about Mattapoisett. It says a lot about our voters, young and old. We are very fortunate to have a community who supports education and appreciates the quality and

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persistence of our educators and elected officials. Asking the town for additional educational dollars for expenses unforeseen wasn't an easy thing for Mr. Lynch to do. But when the questions were asked, it was very clear it was not a frivolous request: it was just plain necessary.

I would like to say that for all the families with children "in" the school system who did stay home ... *shame on you!* As a single mother of two elementary school children, it wasn't easy for me to keep my children out so late just so I could vote. I had explained to them that it was important to attend the Town Meeting and cast my vote, *as every vote counts.* They knew it had something to do with the school budget, and they asked me if their teachers were going to lose their jobs; I told them I didn't know.

Many of you are so quick to condemn the School Committee or Selectmen or Finance Committee when educational expenses and programs have to be cut to balance the budget ... please let me make this clear ... *you DO NOT have a voice unless you show up and vote.* It is your *right,* it is your *obligation to your town* and to *your children.*

So, for those of you who *did not* attend the (Special) Town Meeting last (week) because you wanted to stay warm, or didn't think it was important enough, *thank a Senior Citizen.* They were the majority voters. They voted "yes" because they knew it was important and it was the "right" thing to do.

I would like to take this time to thank all the voters who voted "YES," and my girls thank you too!

Sincerely,
Carol Ingram
Mattapoisett

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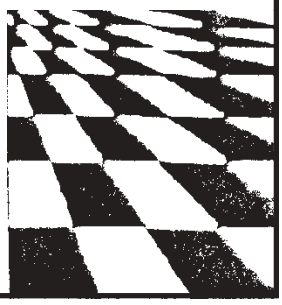

To the Editor:

[Editor's Note: The following is an abbreviated version of a longer statement delivered to the ORR District School Committee on January 22, 2003 by Teresa Dall, President of the Old Rochester Professional Educators Association.]

We, the Old Rochester Professional Educators Association, are present this evening to bring to the attention of the full body of the School Committee, as well as to the attention of the Old Rochester Regional School District community, a number of concerns we have in regard to the current teachers contract negotiations.

The concerns fall under several categories: (1) the process itself; (2) the lack of respect shown to us as teachers, both for who we are and what we do; (3) the lack of appreciation for what we have accomplished in relation to the success our students have met in their MCAS performance and other assessments; (4) the lack of appreciation for the hard work and inconvenience we have so willingly accepted in the ongoing building and renovation project; (5) our observations of poor money management in the district and in the current building project; and (6) our realization that much money is spent lavishly in this district on administrators, salaries and consultants, while teachers, educational concerns for the students are ignored and teachers, salaries and benefits are seen as the expenses to be cut. Please look out at the buttons we are wearing this evening — *RESPECT* — respect is what we are asking for — respect for who we are as professionals, respect for how well we prepare the students of this district, and respect for our students who deserve the best we can give them.

Our contract expired as of August 31, 2002. Many parents and others in our community are not aware that we have been working since September with an expired contract. In fact, the first meeting between the two negotiating teams, school committee and association took place on February 2, 2002, almost a full year ago. Why then is the contract still not settled?

Much can be attributed to the lack of respect. Our negotiating team has been subjected to delays, ridicule, sarcasm, lack of interest, lack of commitment, and lack of research on the part of the school committee. Equally frustrating has been the apparent disinterest on the part of the school committee and the assistant superintendent to do any meaningful research in response to questions raised at the table. The school committee negotiators made no effort to get answers to our questions, and in fact, the day after one of the fruitless sessions, one of our negotiating team members acquired the necessary information by making one ten minute phone call. In addition, during negotiating sessions, one member of the school committee's negotiators has taken cell phone calls, one has left during a session for a business meeting, one has limited the amount of time set aside for negotiating, and one has been openly rude, sarcastic and argumentative, while the other two have sat in silent assent, thereby neglecting their responsibility to represent their communities. All this has impeded progress. We then could go no further given the negativity and lack of cooperation on the school committee's part, and both sides thus agreed to an independent mediator, sharing the cost.

We engaged in three mediation sessions and still could not reach a settlement. Since the issues of the committee's lack of respect and commitment have not been resolved, we are now here.

We, the teachers, respect education. We provide the children in our communities care and concern and a very good education. We have shared in our student's success. It is the

teachers who make the difference in a school. It is not the physical structure or the equipment or the administration; it is the teachers and support staff that day-by-day work to encourage the learning and development that our communities want for their children. MCAS is the current measure of performance in our state, and we are the best in the immediate area in our students, success and among the best in the state. We continue to give of ourselves, of our knowledge, and of our expertise everyday; contract or no contract, and that is probably why no one has really noticed.

The Old Rochester Regional School District is known for having good schools. We are proud of that. The Old Rochester Regional School District is known for its MCAS success. We are proud of that. People buy homes in our three communities, because of our fine schools. We are proud of that. If we didn't have the schools we do, property values would not be what they are. We make these towns desirable to parents. This is the reputation we want to maintain. In order to attract good new teachers when we need them, we need to respect our teachers and respect our contract. We need to maintain a competitive salary and desirable benefits. In the past two years, we have been able to attract several teachers because of our salary and benefits, and we have been able to keep some excellent teachers who have been courted by other school systems, because of those teachers, fine reputations. Good teachers should be valued; they are what make this system work.

Most recently, our teachers have experienced the inconvenience and hard work connected with the building and renovation project. We have packed and unpacked; we have been hot and cold, because of a heating and cooling system that doesn't function properly. We have done this willingly in the hope that we would have a wonderful new building for our students. In reality, most of our academic classrooms, are small, bland, and inefficient, not allowing for the flexibility and creativity demanded by recommended contemporary methods. The message we see in the building is that showiness counts; teachers, academics, and students can make do. This does not show teachers and students the respect we would like to experience. We have an extravagant main office, a huge window in the cafeteria, and very unimpressive classrooms with little storage and low ceilings that come below the tops of the windows.

We are told that money is tight, that our towns are unwilling to give us more money for our schools, but remember why people come here and remember the quality education they want for the children of the district. We cannot give up the salaries we need in order to maintain and attract good teachers.

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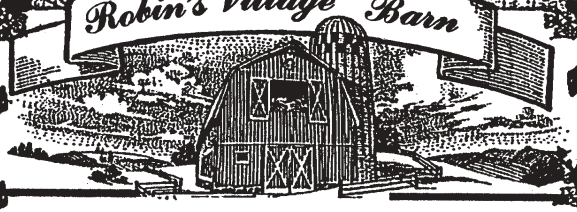

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We have demonstrated such success; we cannot go backwards. Our towns are more comfortable financially than many in our state. Our communities want to be at the top in education — to revel in our MCAS scores and then strive for even greater improvement. We, in fact, have jumped 47 places higher in the state MCAS ratings, but our salaries have not kept pace with some of the finer districts in the state.

On the subject, of salaries, we have been told there is not enough money to give us a reasonable raise, yet from an examination of our administrators, salaries, we can clearly see that they are paid very well and that their number has increased dramatically over recent years. The former superintendent seems to have practiced an educational philosophy that added administrators and reduced teaching staff, despite a higher student population. I'll offer just a few examples. Our Assistant Superintendent, who incidentally sits at the bargaining table, earns $102,863 for the 2002-2003 school year. The Associate Superintendent for Finance and Planning earns $93,008 for the current school year, and that will increase to $97,534 for the 2003-2004 school year. In addition, administrators like to give the impression that they work year-round, when, in fact, each of these has 30 working days of vacation written into their contracts in addition to the usual holidays; that is six weeks vacation. The high school principal's salary for the 2001-2002 school year was $87,394, with the same six weeks vacation. The former superintendent seems to have had a greater interest in administration and building than in education. That seems to be the kind of poor money management supported by the district. We are living with the results today; a top-heavy management system and little respect for the true workers. That unfortunate legacy lives on in our district for the new superintendent to grapple with — a situation not of his making. That legacy unfortunately also persists in the current school committee. Where is the respect for teachers?

On the subject of money mismanagement, as teachers we are living with the results in the building project. Cuts were made in areas that have created poor situations for learning. We have experienced pipes that burst, ceilings that leaked, rooms that flooded, ceilings and carpeting that grew mold. The current superintendent is presently dealing with these severe issues that

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are not of his making. This is not an attractive building, nor an efficient one. Where is the true respect for education? Our former superintendent is, in fact, consulting for the architectural firm that designed this project.

Other poor money management decisions result in a further lack of respect for teachers and our true interest in education. The district hires costly consultants to present professional development on topics we have already discovered and put to use. When we could be doing real professional development, we experience our budget dollars being wasted, while we experience a greater lack of respect for who we are, what we know, and what we do as professionals.

Here we are then. We have been working at this process of negotiations since February 2 of last year. We have continued to do our job, which is the care and education of the district's children and to do it with love and dedication. We are asking for a timely and satisfactory settlement of our contract. We are asking for greater respect in this process, greater respect for our professionalism, and greater respect for education, that most important endeavor that we have chosen as our life's work.

Sincerely,
Teresa R. Dall, President
ORR Professional Educators Association

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Mattapoisett Recreation Committee and Director, I would like to thank the Mattapoisett Youth Activities Association (MYAA) and all the volunteers for making "Mid-Day Madness" a rousing success. All your hard work and effort contributed to a very successful day for all the players and their families.

It was a great way to kick off the youth basketball season and open our new basketball court at Old Hammondtown School. The children really had a great time and felt special being introduced and playing in front of their family and friends.

Hopefully, this will be the first of many future Mid-Day Madness celebrations. Great job!

Sincerely,
Ed McGlynn, Chairman
Mattapoisett Recreation Committee

To the Editor:

It is truly sad and unfortunate when the Mattapoisett Board of Selectmen demonstrates such a lack of confidence in the community. Suggesting that nobody from Mattapoisett is qualified and willing to come forward to fill the "soon to be vacant" Tax Collector position is an insult. To remedy this

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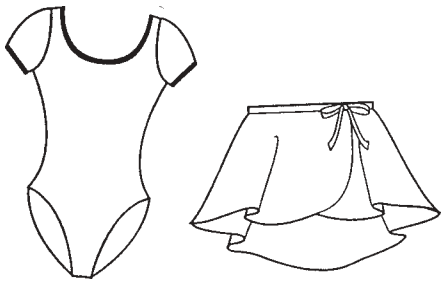

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situation, the board wants change this position from an elected to an appointed position, stripping the voters of their duty to fill this position.

The Tax Collector's position is an elected position for many reasons. Most importantly, an elected person's loyalties and dedication will lie with those who voted him or her into that position, serving the best interests of the town. An appointed person, on the other hand, will serve only the interests and private agendas of the appointing authority, which just happens to be the Board of Selectmen, not a comforting thought at all.

Look back to the events of about a year ago, when the Board of Selectmen and their hand-picked search committee, not once, but twice declared a full-time Mattapoisett resident and longtime town employee unqualified and unfit to fill the position of Town Clerk. The board and a handful of others openly supported and made every effort to fill this spot with an individual who fit the mold for their little political gang, and without a doubt, would have served their best interests and agendas. The voters of Mattapoisett should be applauded for recognizing the attributes and qualifications of a qualified resident over those of misguided loyalties and back door politics. The voters of Mattapoisett, not some appointing authority with their own ideas and agendas, chose our current Town Clerk.

The list is long when it comes to concerns over the Board of Selectmen setting policy, more specifically "personnel" policy. The board's recent effort to sidestep the Personnel Board in an important article was quickly recognized and corrected by voters on Town Meeting floor. The recent finding by a Federal Court that the board was guilty of violating civil rights in another "personnel" matter does not build a good track record.

The "will of the people" and the electoral process in town government is a sacred thing.

Instead of the approach taken by this board, perhaps they should have openly supported the electoral process and encouraged the Mattapoisett resident or residents qualified for the position to come forward and serve their community as many have and continue to do. A salary of nearly $50,000 is more than fair, considering the scope of this job, not to mention the healthy increase of salary the Board of Selectmen have plans to offer.

It's not too late for a resident of Mattapoisett to pull nomination papers and preserve the elected position of Town Tax Collector. One or two viable candidates running for this office would surely defeat the change sought by the Selectmen on Election Day. Nomination papers are available at the Town Clerk's office and just waiting for those who wish to keep our town government out of the back pockets of a few.

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Taking away the sacred right of choosing our officials is not a progressive move as Selectman (Raymond) Andrews asserts. It would be a move backwards for Mattapoisett.

Sincerely,
Daniel Goodman Sr.
Mattapoisett

To the Editor:

The Mattapoisett Historical Commission will conduct a 20th century Oral History Project during 2003. Commission members have spent a great deal of time of late working diligently at developing interview formats and techniques. They have compiled a lengthy list of potential interviewees and have begun their work.

The Commission's goal is to compile a transcribed

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record of our town based on the memories and recollections of a broad-based group of residents. Individuals who agree to be interviewed will be questioned about their lives, their neighborhoods they grew up and/or lived in, the schools they attended, and the history and development of life in Mattapoisett during their lifetimes. All interviews will be audio-taped and all interviewees will be photographed. Residents who participate in the project will have the right to review the audiotape and transcript of their interview and to restrict and edit the transcript. They will also have the right to withdraw from the project should they choose to do so, and those who do so will have their photograph returned to them by the Commission. All transcripts of interviews will become the property of the Commission, and all audiotapes will be destroyed.

Any resident who would like to be interviewed for the project should call the Mattapoisett Historical Commission at 508-758-2741.

Sincerely,
Raymond P. Harrington
Mattapoisett Historical Commission

Editor's Note: The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, *its staff or its advertisers.* The Wanderer *will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the greater Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester area, provided they include the authors name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions.* The Wanderer *reserves the right to edit, condense, and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations.* The Wanderer *also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence.*

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Rochester Police Brotherhood

The Rochester Police Brotherhood's annual fund drive has concluded for this year. The members want to thank all the individuals and businesses that so generously supported this year's drive. Because of your generosity, they will be able to continue supporting the many worthwhile organizations and causes throughout the southeastern Massachusetts area.

The date and location of the magic show, which is free to all those who donated, has yet to be set. As soon as that is settled, tickets will be made available.

Sippican Seniors Meeting

The next meeting of the Sippican Seniors will be held on February 14, 2003 at the Marion VFW Post, Route 6 in Marion at 1:30 pm. The Annual Penny Sale will take place on this day, and refreshments will be served. Come and bring a friend. The building is handicap accessible.

Benefit for Rochester Family

A Benefit Dinner for the Robinson-Jones Family of Rochester will be held on Saturday, February 8 at Saint Anthony's Church in New Bedford on Acushnet Avenue (use Nye Street entrance). Dinner will be served from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, with dancing from 8:00 pm to 12:00 midnight. Donation is $15 for adults, $8 for children 12 and under. Auctions and Raffles will be held. For tickets or more information, please call Doreen Pacheco at 508-992-5160.

Mattapoisett Women's Guild

The Women's Community Guild of the Mattapoisett Congregational Church will meet on February 4 at 1:00 pm in Reynard Hall. The speaker will be Ken Hartnett, Editor-in-Chief of *The Standard-Times* of New Bedford. Guests are always welcome to attend.

Come Meet the Chief

The Rochester Board of Selectmen invites all residents to join them on Saturday, February 1 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Rochester Senior Center, 67 Dexter Lane, to meet and welcome the new Police Chief, Paul H. Magee.

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MOVIE REVIEW

Razzle Dazzle

By Rob Gonsalves
http://robsreviews.cjb.net

***Chicago*. Starring Catherine Zeta-Jones, Renée Zellweger, and Richard Gere. Directed by Rob Marshall. Running time: 113 minutes. MPAA rating: PG-13. At AMC Cinema 12 at the North Dartmouth Mall and Flagship Cinema 12 in New Bedford.**

I hated *Moulin Rouge*, but that doesn't mean I hate musicals; it just means I hate self-consciously chaotic messes. I mention that film only because it may give all future musicals a bad name. Those who share my disdain for *Moulin Rouge* should try to get over that trauma and submit to the expertly crafted pizzazz of *Chicago*. Here, finally, is a movie musical made by people who know what they're doing. In all, it's the most electrifying entry in the genre since *Dancer in the Dark*, though admittedly a lot more lightweight than that rewarding ordeal.

The material has knocked around for decades, most famously in the Broadway musical of the same name, which opened in 1975 under the watch of Bob Fosse and songwriters John Kander and Fred Ebb. (A production was also mounted locally not long ago, surprising some theatergoers who weren't expecting the show's cheerful cynicism and amorality.) As with most musicals, great and bad, the "book" — the story — is very simple. Roxie Hart (Renée Zellweger), who has dreams of being a star on the Chicago stage, kills a callous lover and almost gets her sap husband Amos (John C. Reilly) to take the fall for it. Roxie is thrown in jail, where she meets two-time murderess Velma Kelly (Catherine Zeta-Jones), a song-and-dance star who killed her husband and her sister after catching them in flagrante delicto. They compete for the attention of the hungry media and the venal lawyer Billy Flynn (Richard Gere), who can beat any murder rap as long as his client greases his palm to the tune of $5,000.

Chicago sees the judicial process as just another form of show-biz, a viewpoint that seemed overly sour in 1975 but looks perfectly plausible after the countless celebrity trials of recent years (including Winona Ryder, whose arm injury might've earned a smirk of approval from Velma). Roxie has well-scrubbed innocence to sell, and sells it so well that a sympathetic nation gives their hearts to her. Velma has wit and show-biz instinct — she works with Billy on the manipulative bits of business she'll wow the jury with as if they were both choreographing a new number, as indeed they are. Taking Fosse's cue, director Rob Marshall and screenwriter Bill Condon (*Gods and Monsters*) adore Roxie and Velma precisely because they're cast-iron lying vixens — the breed of outsize divas that used to power classic Hollywood movies.

A lot of hard work must've gone into the film — prepping the somewhat rusty Zellweger and Gere for musical numbers, for instance (Zeta-Jones has a more solid and recent singing-dancing background). But you don't see the sweat; you just see passion and joy. *Chicago* looks as though it was a great deal of fun to make, even if it wasn't. Gere is a somewhat forced singer, but he makes up for it with a colorful and sleazy turn, especially during his numbers "All I Care About" (money) and "Razzle Dazzle" (which re-imagines a tense courtroom moment as a tap-dance). Zellweger is a pleasure to watch as she morphs from frightened convict to seasoned spin-mistress, but Zeta-Jones is the real star here; she takes the stage (and the screen) with the hunger of a lioness, kicking the movie off beautifully with "All That Jazz" and sneering her way through the show-stopper "Cell Block Tango." Queen Latifah, too, scores as the prison matron with the ribald number "When You're Good to Mama." Even John C. Reilly gets a poignant tune, "Mr. Cellophane," lamenting Amos' invisibility.

I felt like applauding after all these numbers; I felt like applauding the movie. *Chicago* is exactly the sort of big, silly trifle that audiences in similarly dark times (war, depression) used to escape to, and I see no reason why it shouldn't be as huge a hit as it deserves to be. Loud, and without a shy bone in its body, *Chicago* shows us what we've been missing, just as (in an entirely different tone and context) *Unforgiven* showed us what a true example of another moribund genre — the western — should look like. And it shows, along with 2001's cult item *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, that it's not lack of talent or brassiness that keeps musicals and movies segregated; it's Hollywood's perception of a lack of interest in movie musicals. Let's prove Hollywood wrong, shall we?

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Biker Boyz (PG-13) – 1:40, 4:05, 7:35, 9:55
Final Destination 2 (R) – 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:30
Darkness Falls (PG-13) – 1:20, 3:15, 5:15, 7:05, 9:10
Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (R) – 1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30 *(No 7:10 show on Fri/Sat/Sun!)*
The Recruit (PG-13) – 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:45
Kangaroo Jack (PG) – 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20
Harry Potter/Chamber of Secrets (PG) – 1:05
Narc (R) – 7:25, 10:00 *(No 7:25 show on Sat!)*
Lord of the Rings: Two Towers (PG-13) – 1:00, 4:30, 8:00
National Security (PG-13) – 1:50, 3:55, 7:35, 9:40
Catch Me If You Can (PG-13) – 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
Gangs of New York (R) – 4:15
Just Married (PG-13) – 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45
25th Hour (R) – 1:05, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45

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Friday, January 31 through Thursday, February 6.
Kangaroo Jack (PG) – 2:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:00
Biker Boyz (PG-13) – 1:30, 4:00, 6:50, 9:10
Catch Me If You Can (PG-13) – 1:40, 4:30, 7:20
Darkness Falls (PG-13) – 2:00, 4:20, 7:20, 9:30
Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (PG-13) – 1:15, 4:40, 8:05
A Guy Thing (PG-13) – 2:10, 4:40, 7:05, 9:15
The Recruit (PG-13) – 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:20
Final Destination 2 (R) – 1:50, 4:10, 7:25, 9:30
Narc (R) – 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:00
Just Married (PG-13) – 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:15
National Security (PG-13) – 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20
Chicago (PG-13) – Fri/Sat: 6:40; Sun: 7:00
Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (R) – 1:30, 4:00, 9:10

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ORR Parent Association

The next meeting of the ORR Parent Association will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2003 beginning at 7:00 pm in the junior/senior high school cafeteria. Among business items to be discussed are: the March 28 Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, the February 12 Eighth Grade Parent Information Night/High School Open House, fund-raising ideas to help supplement assembly programs in the schools, and Principal's Updates. The business meeting will precede the evening's program, which is about the ORR American Field Service (AFS) experience. A panel to host families and current exchange students will be in attendance to discuss their experiences with this program. We hope you will be able to attend this informative meeting!

Center School Surplus

Would you like to own a piece of history? Please join us for a Silent Auction of miscellaneous items and surplus goods from Mattapoisett's Center School before demolition begins. Come place a bid and own a piece of the school in which so many warm memories have been created.

Items such as auditorium chairs, oak desks, tables, kitchen appliances, text books, folding tables, student chairs, shelving, metal desks and more will be available. All items are to be sold "as is" and must be paid for with cash or check. All fixed items are to be removed

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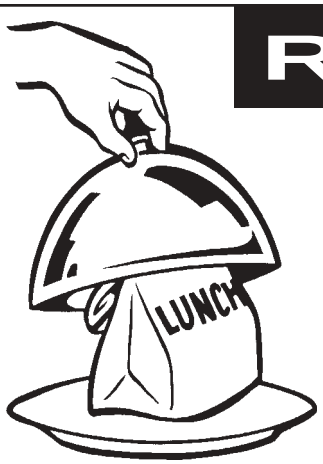

• ACUSHNET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday, February 3 – Baked macaroni and cheese, turkey sandwich, green beans, fresh fruit, milk.

Tuesday, February 4 – Baked chicken, ham sandwich, rice, corn, fresh fruit, milk.

Wednesday, February 5 – Hamburger on a bun, turkey sandwich, potato puffs, carrots, fresh fruit, milk.

Thursday, February 6 – Hot dog on a roll, bologna sandwich, potato puffs, peas, fresh fruit, milk.

Friday, February 7 – Round pizza, tuna salad sandwich, tossed salad, salad dressing, fresh fruit, milk.

• COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

Monday, February 3 – Vegetable soup, BBQ chicken, au gratin potato, club roll, fresh fruit.

Tuesday, February 4 – Ziti with meat sauce, green beans, multi-grain roll, vanilla pudding, sugar-free pudding.

Wednesday, February 5 – Turkey stew with vegetables, fluffy white rice, oatmeal bread, fruit in light syrup.

Thursday, February 6 – Meatloaf with gravy, whipped potato, broccoli, whole wheat roll, brownies, graham wafer.

Friday, February 7 – Crunchy fish, tartar sauce, Lyonnaise potato, glazed carrots, wheat bread, fruit in light syrup.

• CENTER SCHOOL MATTAPOISETT

Monday, February 3 – Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, oven fries, veggie sticks, fruit, dessert, milk.

Tuesday, February 4 – Chicken patty, steak and cheese sub, potato puffs, lettuce, tomato, soup, fruit, dessert, milk.

Wednesday, February 5 – Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, rib-a-que, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Thursday, February 6 – Pepperoni or cheese stuffed crust pizza, tuna roll, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Friday, February 7 – HALF DAY: Bagels and muffins served.

• FAIRHAVEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, February 3 – Kentucky style chicken, baked pork chop with gravy, Steak'Um and cheese sub, rice pilaf, corn niblets, chilled pears, cherry jello with topping.

Tuesday, February 4 – Hearty chicken gumbo soup, grilled cheese sandwich, tuna salad, chicken patty club, bologna and lettuce sub, potato puffs, chilled peaches, fruit snacks.

Wednesday, February 5 – Chicken nuggets with sauces, mac rib sub, open face hot pastrami sub, potato wedges, carrots, chilled pears, chilled pineapple.

Thursday, February 6 – Roast turkey with gravy, hot ham and cheese sub, hamburger/cheeseburger, whipped potatoes, peas, cranberry sauce, chilled peaches, mixed fruit.

Friday, February 7 – Taco boat with all the fixings, shaved turkey lettuce and tomato sub, chicken fajita wrap with salsa, Spanish rice, green beans, chilled pears, strawberries with topping.

• MEMORIAL SCHOOL ROCHESTER

Monday, February 3 – Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, oven fries, veggie sticks, fruit, dessert, milk.

Tuesday, February 4 – Chicken patty, steak and cheese sub, potato puffs, lettuce, tomato, soup, fruit, dessert, milk.

Wednesday, February 5 – Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, rib-a-que, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Thursday, February 6 – Pepperoni or cheese stuffed crust pizza, tuna roll, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Friday, February 7 – HALF DAY: Bagels and muffins served.

• OLD COLONY REGIONAL VOKE HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, February 3 – Chicken nuggets, French fries, broccoli, applesauce, bread, peanut butter cookie.

Tuesday, February 4 – Taco boat, chicken fajita, tortilla chips, salsa, corn, fruit, jello.

Wednesday, February 5 – Soup, turkey salad roll, spicy fries, carrots, fruit, apple crisp.

Thursday, February 6 – Toasted ham and cheese, hash brown patty, peas, chocolate whipped cream cake.

Friday, February 7 – Tuna, pizza, potato puffs, green beans, peaches, dessert.

• OLD HAMMONDTOWN SCHOOL, MATTAPOISETT

Monday, February 3 – Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, oven fries, veggie sticks, fruit, dessert, milk.

Tuesday, February 4 – Chicken patty, steak and cheese sub, potato puffs, lettuce, tomato, soup, fruit, dessert, milk.

Wednesday, February 5 – Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, rib-a-que, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Thursday, February 6 – Pepperoni or cheese stuffed crust pizza, tuna roll, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Friday, February 7 – HALF DAY: Bagels and muffins served.

• SIPPICAN SCHOOL MARION

Monday, February 3 – Hamburger/cheeseburger, lettuce, tomato, oven fries, veggie sticks, fruit, dessert, milk.

Tuesday, February 4 – Chicken patty, steak and cheese sub, potato puffs, lettuce, tomato, soup, fruit, dessert, milk.

Wednesday, February 5 – Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread, rib-a-que, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Thursday, February 6 – Pepperoni or cheese stuffed crust pizza, tuna roll, soup, salad, fruit, dessert, milk.

Friday, February 7 – HALF DAY: Bagels and muffins served.

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Preview and pre-bid will take place on **Friday, January 31** from **1:00 to 3:00 pm** and final bidding will take place on **Saturday, February 1** from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon**. All bids close as of **12:00 noon on Saturday, February 1**.

A listing of goods and auction guidelines will be available at the door. Please contact Glenna Sanford (508-758-6107) with any questions. See you there!

Marion Democratic Caucus

Registered Democrats in Marion will be holding a caucus on Saturday, February 8, 2003 at 2:00 pm in the main conference room at the Marion Town House. The caucus will elect delegates to attend the 2003 Massachusetts Democratic Convention held at the Paul Tsongas Arena in Lowell on June 7, 2003.

The caucus will be electing three delegates and three alternates to send to the Convention. Only those Democrats registered to vote in the town as of December 31, 2002 are eligible to participate and vote in this caucus. If you have any questions regarding the caucus or need a ride to the caucus, please contact George T.J. Walker, Town Democratic Chairman, at 508-748-1019.

Mattapoisett Maconchu Club

The next meeting of the Maconchu Club will be held on February 15 at 7:30 pm in Reynard Hall at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church. The club will have as their speaker Bunny Mogulnicki, who will share with them some of her experiences and interesting stories while teaching around the world for the Federal Government.

The club is open to everyone, so if you think you might be interested in the program, please come and join them. They will serve refreshments after the meeting as

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INNER VIEWS

Share in the Spirit

By Kenneth J. Souza
news@wanderer.com

It's funny how sometimes when you think our culture has taken an irreversible turn for the worse and we're becoming more and more self-centered, wrapped up in our own little satellite-TV-Internet-ready sheltered microcosm, that unexpected and tragic events can bring out the best in people.

Cynics who are ready to dismiss Americans as selfish and uncaring might want to take a closer look at our three little towns — each of which has bonded together to support three of their own families who have recently met with personal tragedies. Thanks to the compassionate people in Mattapoisett, Marion and Rochester, however, they won't have to face these adversities alone.

Residents in **Marion** were the first to step up to the plate to help the Allen family late last year. Last August, George Allen and his two teenage sons, Jeffrey and Robert, were involved in a devastating collision with a tractor-trailer in Middleboro. A "Friends of the Allen Family Committee" was swiftly formed to help raise funds to finish the family home and help the recovered victims settle into a comfortable house.

Many Marion residents have been offering their time, talent and financial support to help the Allen family, which culminates with a "Share in the Spirit" Benefit Ball on Friday, February 7 at the Marion Music Hall.

Among those who have pitched in: Luke Lomeland, skipper of the *Liberty,* who has offered two separate three-hour tours of Sippican Harbor for next summer; Jan Aarsheim, who has offered to take two people on an aerial tour of Buzzards Bay and the Cape Cod Canal in a private plane; Pam and Harry Norweb, who have donated a "surprise package" from Shreve, Crump and Lowe; the Kittansett Golf Club, which has offered a round of golf for four; Carrie Millen, who has donated a beautiful stained glass piece of art; Knute Aarsheim, who promised 10 pounds of scallops; Anne Converse, who donated her book *Wind, Wood and Water;* and The Blue Lobsta Band, which has donated their time and talent to the gala. Appetizers and hors d'oeuvres will also be generously supplied by the Continental Deli, Harriet's Catering Service, the Mattapoisett Inn, and the Sippican Cafe; and Uncle Jon's will provide coffee.

Miss Massachusetts will make an appearance at the ball, and a professional photographer, Gerry DeSousa, has also offered to take photos of interested revelers and provide 5x7 photos for only $10. There will be a cash bar provided by Spirits.

Tickets to the Ball can now be purchased for $50 each at the following Marion locations: The Bookstall, the Marion General Store, and Spirits. Half of the ticket price is tax-deductible. Checks should be made out to the **First Congregational Church - Allen Family**. Anyone interested in donating Silent Auction items and/or volunteering on the committee is welcome to call **Judith Coykendall at 508-748-0285** or **Kathy Haverty at 508-749-9709**.

In **Mattapoisett**, friends and family members have also rallied around the Pinard family, who found themselves forced out of their home one Sunday morning after a devastating fire just before the holidays. The Mattapoisett Fire Rescue took it upon themselves to establish a fund at a local bank for the family. Donations are still being accepted and can be sent to the **Mattapoisett Fire Rescue, P.O. Box 219, Mattapoisett, MA 02739, c/o the Pinard Family**. Donations of gifts, clothing, toys, and the like may also be dropped off at the Fire Department (26 County Road) between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm and the Mattapoisett Firefighters Ladies Auxiliary will get the items delivered to the Pinard family.

More recently, another tragic fire struck the Robinson-Jones family of **Rochester**, and residents there didn't waste any time in putting a similar charitable drive into motion. A Benefit Dance was held this past weekend and a Benefit Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 8 at Saint Anthony's Church in New Bedford on Acushnet Avenue (use Nye Street entrance). Dinner will be served from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, with dancing from 8:00 pm to 12:00 midnight. Donation is $15 for adults, $8 for children 12 and under. Auctions and Raffles will be held. For tickets or more information, please call **Doreen Pacheco at 508-992-5160**.

Indeed, it would seem that charity does begin at home, and the residents in Mattapoisett, Marion and Rochester are doing a lot to restore everyone's faith in humanity. And I can't think of a more promising outlook at the dawn of 2003.

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ORR Seeks Petticoats

The costume committee for the Old Rochester Regional High School Drama Club is seeking donations of full petticoats to be used during their spring production of *Les Miserables,* and later productions and other plays. If you have a petticoat left over from a bridal outfit or full formal gown that is gathering dust in your attic or closet, they would happily take it out of your way. If you can help them, please call Barbara at 508-758-2058 (leave message) to arrange a pick-up. The ORR Drama Club thanks you in advance for your help and cooperation.

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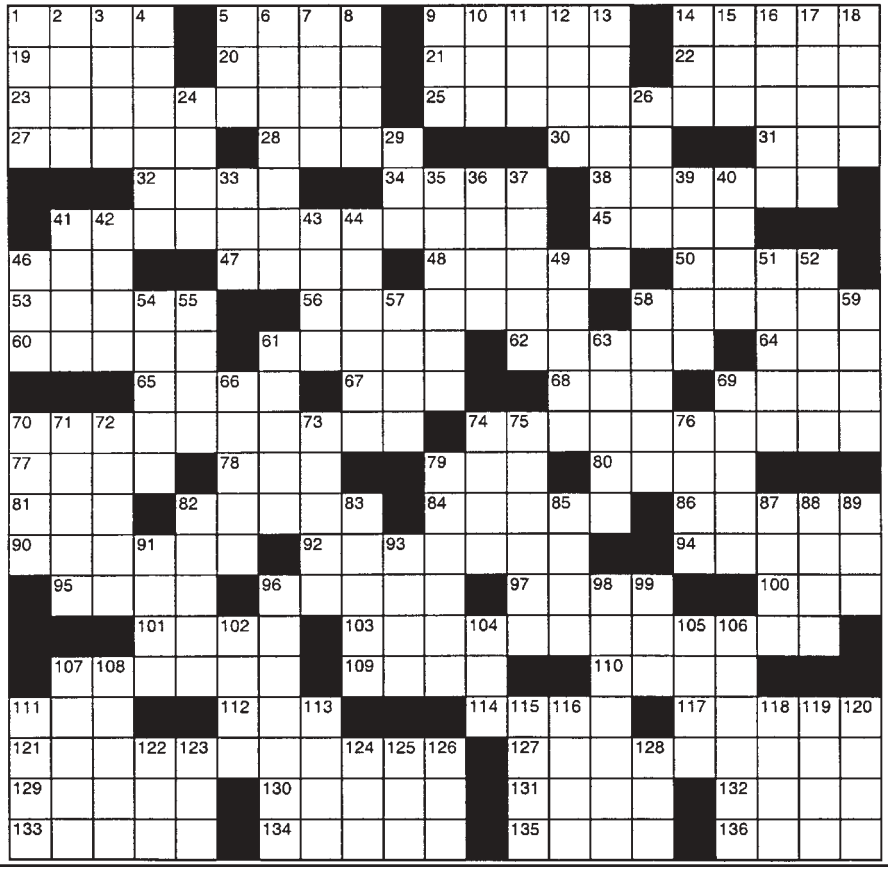
Super Crossword — FIRST BORN

ACROSS
1 Like some cellars
5 Fossey's friends
9 — acid
14 Actress Witherspoon
19 Gulf ruler
20 Computer command
21 Word with coffee or linen
22 Intense
23 Writer born 1/1/1879
25 Bandleader born 1/1/1900
27 Soprano Anna
28 Facts, for short
30 Diocese
31 Flagon filler
32 Vacation location
34 Cease
38 Join the leisure class?
41 General born 1/1/1745
45 Adored one
46 Paid player
47 Athenian arcade
48 Musical movement
50 Madison's st.
53 Wrong
56 Splitting headache?
58 Donkey's declaration
60 Flapjack sauce
61 Tacitus' tongue
62 Glue guy
64 Eggs
65 Fancy fabric
67 Nationality suffix
68 Boathouse item
69 Secular
70 Patriot born 1/1/1735
74 Comic born 1/1/1943
77 TV's "— McBeal"
78 — Tin Tin
79 Welcome item?
80 Norse deity
81 Deteriorate
82 More delicate
84 Singer John
86 Marking post
90 Henson amphibian
92 Deceive
94 Riyadh resident
95 "I Am . . . I —" ('71 song)
96 Japanese city
97 Amazes
100 Smith or Stout
101 A swan was her swain
103 G-man born 1/1/1895
107 "Petrouchka," for one
109 Novelist Seton
110 Memo start
111 Fumble
112 Supporter
114 Nice or Newark
117 Abate
121 Actor born 1/1/1909
127 Seamstress born 1/1/1752
129 Butter-cream, e.g.
130 Northern hemisphere?
131 — podrida
132 Ages
133 "Lovergirl" singer Marie
134 Like the Taj Mahal
135 Viewed
136 Skillful

DOWN
1 Judge
2 Snowballs, sometimes
3 Irritate
4 Make a bundle
5 Palm Sunday beast
6 Exam subject?
7 Like Steven?
8 Medieval menial
9 Rig a race
10 "— pro nobis"
11 Ullmann or Tyler
12 Horus' mother
13 "Ta-ta!"
14 — room
15 It's found in the Seine
16 Actress Samantha
17 Panther Bobby
18 Ziegfeld Follies designer
24 — Hashanah
26 Stalk
29 Actress Massen
33 — Alamos, NM
35 Power or Guthrie
36 — about (approximately)
37 Carnaby Street currency
39 London landmark
40 Nastase of tennis
41 Bunch of battalions
42 Film —
43 Jedi instructor
44 Restaurant employee
46 — de deux
49 Actor Alain
51 Shallow area
52 Find fault
54 Tarnish
55 Practice punching
57 Workbench attachment
58 "Salome" character
59 Texas city
61 "The Stepford Wives" author
63 Massenet opera
66 Earn
69 "The Threepenny Opera" star
70 Transmission setting
71 Fugard's "A Lesson from —"
72 Marine leader?
73 Foe
74 Buttermilk's mistress
75 Canada's capital
76 Bigwigs
79 Tune
82 — Castro
83 Sangria wine
85 Scent
87 Entice
88 Central European river
89 Veto
91 Grain grinder
93 British gun
96 Kind of grasshopper
98 Carve
99 Every guy is one
102 College hotshot
104 Cumberland —
105 French airport
106 Swerved
107 Clamp
108 Football's Herber
111 Touch up the text
113 Therefore
115 Bassoon relative
116 Depend (on)
118 Made tracks
119 Lofty initials?
120 Classroom sound
122 Jillian or Sothern
123 Khan opener?
124 New Haven hardwood
125 "— is me!"
126 Turf
128 Crestfallen



SALOME'S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're eager to take on that new opportunity opening up as January gives way to February. Now all you need to do is resist quitting too early. Do your best to stay with it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Doff a bit of that careful, conservative outlook and let your brave Bovine self take a chance on meeting that new challenge. You could be surprised at how well you do.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might not want to return to the more serious tasks facing you. But you know it's what you must do. Cheer up. Something more pleasant will soon occupy your time.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) As you dutifully tidy your end-of-the-month tasks, your fun self emerges to urge you to do something special: A trip (or a cruise, maybe?) could be just what you need.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your achievements are admirable as you close out the month with a roar. Now you can treat yourself to some well-earned time off for fun with family or friends. (Or both!)

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Be sure you know the facts before you assume someone is holding back on your project. Try to open your mind before you give someone a piece of it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You might feel comfortable in your familiar surroundings, but it might be time to venture into something new. There's a challenge out there that's just right for you.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your love of things that are new gets a big boost as you encounter a situation that opens up new and exciting vistas. How far you go with it depends on you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) That recent workplace shift might not seem to be paying off as you expected. But be patient. There are changes coming that could make a big difference.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) While few can match the Goat's fiscal wizardry, you still need to be wary in your dealings. There might be a problem you should know about sooner rather than later.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Easy does it when it comes to love and all the other good things in life. Don't try to force them to develop on your schedule. Best to let it happen naturally.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A surprise decision by someone you trust causes some stormy moments. But a frank discussion explains everything, and helps save a cherished relationship.

BORN THIS WEEK: Sometimes you forget to take care of yourself, because you're so busy caring for others. But you wouldn't have it any other way.

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Mattapoisett Machacam Club

The Machacam Club will hold its February meeting on Wednesday, February 5 at the American Legion Hall on Depot Street. Social hour begins at 5:30 pm with dinner service at 6:00 pm. The speaker this month will be Bruce Baggarly, who will speak on the 54th Massachusetts Regiment. If time permits, he would also like to give an update on the progress of the New Bedford Whaling National Historic Park. Callers are reminded to report their lists no later than 9:00 pm on February 3.

Rochester Fair Winter Dance

The Rochester Country Fair is sponsoring their

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Thurs. 10-6
Ladies Night
Thurs. 6-9:30pm
Fri./Sat. 11-9
Sun. 12-5

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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ROCHESTER
PLANNING BOARD
Notice is hereby given that the Rochester Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, February 11, 2003 at 8:15 PM in the Rochester Town Hall Conference Room regarding a Special Permit request for a Back Lot per Zoning By-Law Section VIII, B, 4 by A.D. Makepeace Co. on Hillside Lane.
A copy of the plan is on file at the Rochester Town Hall and may be reviewed during the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Bradford Morse, Chair 01/23, 01/30

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ROCHESTER
BOARD OF APPEALS
#823 Notice is hereby given that the Rochester Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the petition of Timothy and Linda Hathaway, 558 Snipatuit Road, who are seeking a variance from setback requirements under section VIII.B. of Rochester By-laws. Property is further identified as Assessors plan 41 lot 1B. The public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2003, at 7:25 p.m.
Ellen E. Endres, Chairman 01/30, 02/06

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ROCHESTER
BOARD OF APPEALS
#824 Notice is hereby given that the Rochester Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the petition of Nelson P. And Shirley A. Torres, 641 Mary's Pond Road, who are seeking a variance from setback requirements under section VIII.B. of Rochester By-laws. Property is identified on Assessors maps as plan 16 lot 18D. The public hearing will be held Thursday, February 13, 2003, 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Rochester Town Hall.
Ellen E. Endres, Chairman 01/30, 02/06

LEGAL NOTICE
MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Pursuant to Chapter 71, Section 38N of the Massachusetts General Laws, you are notified that there will be a PUBLIC HEARING of the Marion School Committee regarding the 2003-04 school budget at 6:30PM on Wednesday, February 12, 2003, in the Etta-Hix Allen Library, Sippican School, 16 Spring School, Marion, Massachusetts 01/30

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

LEGAL NOTICE
MATTAPOISETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Pursuant to Chapter 71, Section 38N of the Massachusetts General Laws, you are notified that there will be a PUBLIC HEARING of the Mattapoisett School Committee regarding the 2003-04 school budget at 7:00PM on Monday, February 10, 2003, at the Old Hammandtown School, Shaw Street, Mattapoisett, Massachusetts 01/30

LEGAL NOTICE
OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MARION, MATTAPOISETT AND ROCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS
Pursuant to Chapter 71, Section 38N of the Massachusetts General Laws, you are notified that there will be a PUBLIC HEARING of the Old Rochester Regional District School Committee regarding the 2003-04 school budget at 7:00PM on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, an the Dr. Joseph C. Kunces Memorial Library, Old Rochester Regional High School, 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, Massachusetts 01/30

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 10, 2003 at 7:20PM in the Town Hall on the Request for a Determination of Applicability submitted by John Laforce, 22 Marshview Drive, Marshfield, MA 2050.
The proposed project is to add 20 x 10ft wood deck on sonotube footing approximately 8ft above grade.
The project is located at 18 Shore Drive, Harbor Beach and is further identified as Lot 34 on Assessor Map 4.
Conservation Commission 01/30

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF MARION
PLANNING BOARD
The Marion Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday,
February 3, 2003 at 7:30 PM in the Main Conference Room of the Marion
Town House to consider the Special Permit application of Marion
Pediatrics, P.C. to allow a reduction in the number of required parking
spaces. Property located at 454 Wareham Street, Marion and further
identified as Plat 13, Lot 51A.
Robert Bennett Vice Chairman01/30

SPORTS QUIZ
By Chris Richcreek

1. Who was the last major-leaguer before Seattle's Mike Cameron and Los Angeles' Shawn Green in 2002 to hit four home runs in a game?
2. Who were the first two baseball announcers to be honored with the Ford Frick Broadcasting Award?
3. Who holds Brigham Young's school record for most touchdowns scored in a season?
4. Before the 2002 NBA Draft, which draft year featured the latest pick in which the first college senior was taken?
5. True or false: In 1951, when each game of the Stanley Cup was decided in overtime, a different player scored each game-winning goal.
6. When the initial Winston Million program started in NASCAR in 1985, what four races were involved?
7. How many Grand Slam titles did Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario win in her career?

Answers
1. Mark Whiten did it for St. Louis in 1993.
2. Mel Allen and Red Barber.
3. Running back Luke Staley had 28 touchdowns in 2001.
4. Kerry Kittles was the No. 8 overall pick by New Jersey in 1996.
5. True. Sid Smith, Ted Kennedy, Harry Watson and Bill Barilko scored game-winning goals for Toronto; Rocket Richard had the lone game-winner for Montreal.
6. Daytona 500, Southern 500, Coca-Cola 600 and the Winston 500 at Talladega.
7. Four — the French Open in 1989, 1994 and 1998, and the U.S. Open in 1994.

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Third Annual Dinner Dance on Friday, February 28 at the Redman's Hall, Main Street in Wareham. A black Angus beef dinner will be served at 7:00 pm, followed by dancing with the popular band, The Relics. A 50/50 Raffle and Chinese Auction will also be held.

Tickets are $12.50 per person and are going fast. Tickets are now available at Bev Loves Books, Plumb Corner Mall; Rochester Bakery, Rochester Center; Ponderosa Sports Bar, Route 105; and Lloyd's Market, Route 105. Bring your appetite and dancing shoes for a fun-filled night.

Tri-Town Phone Directory

Renewal notices for the upcoming 2003-2004, 18th edition of the League of Women Voters tri-town local phone directory were mailed in early January. All current advertisers in the Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester Telephone Book ("The Blue Book") who have not done so are urged to return their renewals *as soon as possible.* The phone book is delivered free to every postal address in the three towns as well as to all schools and Town Halls and is made available to all area newcomers.

Information has also been sent out to prospective advertisers. If any new businesses, services or professionals have not received this year's information, please call Christine Reid at 508-748-3251.

Published by the Tri-Town League of Women Voters as a community service, the Blue Book advertisers make it possible for the LWV to continue its community activities such as its voter service which includes candidates' nights and voter registration of 18-year-old students at ORR High School and its grants to new education projects in the schools of Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester, and ORR's Junior and Senior High Schools.

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Authors at Mattapoisett Library

On Sunday, February 9, 2003 at 2:00 pm, the Friends of the Mattapoisett Library are sponsoring a talk and book signing by three mystery authors to be held at Reynard Hall on Church Street in Mattapoisett.

Authors will include: **G.H. Ephron**, whose latest book is *Delusion,* with Peter Zak in his third appearance as the forensic/psychiatrist defense witness; **Katherine Hall Page**, author of *The Body in the Bonfire,* the third of a series featuring Faith Sibley Fairchild, a caterer and minister's wife; and **Philip R. Craig**, writer of mystery novels centered on Martha's Vineyard, whose latest is *Vineyard Enigma.*

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Parents must bring a birth certificate, two verifications of home address, a record of immunization, and a physician's certificate showing the date and results of a lead screening. Each student must have a physical examination dated no more than six months prior to the beginning of classes.

Kindergarten parents are welcome to an Orientation Meeting that will take place on Tuesday, February 11

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99 Mitsubishi Galant ES, loaded, 4dr, 59K $8,995.

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Executive virtual office assistants needed for Marion based international investment firm. Position requires executive assistant skills, virtual office capabilities using Excel and MS Word, faxing and internet access. Occasional travel to office in Marion required. Long term potential. Compensation open. Letter of interest and resume to be e-mailed to grv@tagmptrs.com or call 952-239-4005

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Monday at 1:00 pm for the following Thursday's paper.

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- *As a general rule there are appoximately 6 words per line in a standard classified ad.*
- *Blank Lines CANNOT be used in Classified Advertisements.*
- *There is NO BOLD FACE TYPE in Classified Advertisements - Only UPPER CASE and lower case lettering.*
- *No Graphics may be used in Classified Ads.*

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS:
- *Legal Ads are $1. per line, at a minimum of $15.00 per ad.*
- *Conservation Commission Advertisements are $15 per insertion.*

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from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the Kindergarten classrooms. The school staff is especially anxious to hear from families who are new to Rochester or whose names might not appear on the Annual Town Census.

Marion Meatloaf Supper

The Marion United Methodist Church, 13 County Road in Marion, will hold a Meatloaf Supper and Silent Auction on Saturday, February 15 at 5:30 pm. The menu will include meatloaf, mashed potatoes, string beans, carrots, rolls and butter, beverage, coffee and dessert. Price for an adult dinner is $7 and a child's dinner is $4. Please call Jane Ladner for reservations at 508-748-0476.

Fairhaven Calendar Deadline

The deadline for submitting listings for the Fairhaven Office of Tourism's annual calendar of summer and fall events will be April 1. Any organization holding public events within Fairhaven between late April and mid-October is encouraged to place listings in the calendar. There is no charge to have events included.

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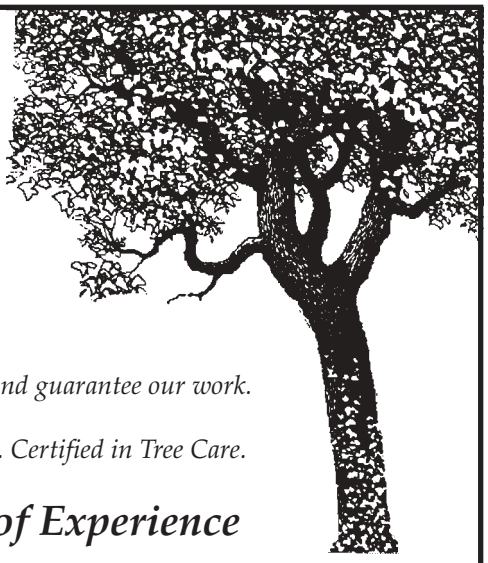

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The *Wanderer*

The Wanderer *is distributed to the public free throughout Mattapoisett, Marion, Rochester, Acushnet and Fairhaven, as well as the surrounding communities.*

Mailing Address:
The Wanderer
P.O. Box 102
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Office:
55 County Road (Route 6)
Mattapoisett

Telephone: (508) 758-9055
FAX: (508) 758-4845

Internet:
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E-mail:
General: info@wanderer.com
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(All Others) Monday at 1pm

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Monday, Thursday &
Friday 9am-3pm

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off the mark by Mark Parisi

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The calendar brochure is distributed free at visitors centers, hotels and other public locations in the area. It is sent to people requesting information about Fairhaven and to regional media outlets. The Office of Tourism also submits lists of events to be included in regional guides and websites.

Listings must be submitted in writing and should include the following: name of event; location, including street address; date(s); time(s); name of sponsoring organization; admission prices; a description of the event; how to obtain tickets, if needed; handicap accessibility information; and a telephone number that the public may call for further information. Please double-check your listing to be sure that all of the necessary information is included.

Calendar of events submissions may be mailed or delivered to the Fairhaven Visitors Center, 43 Center Street, Fairhaven, or e-mailed to **FairhavenTours@aol.com**. You may fax listings to **508-979-4085**. Calendar listings are not taken over the telephone.

The Office of Tourism hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

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Local Tides

Date	Day	High a.m.	High p.m.	Low a.m.	Low p.m.
January 30:	Thurs.	6:13	6:33	12:35	11:59
January 31:	Fri.	7:03	7:21	. . .	1:16
February 1:	Sat.	7:49	8:06	12:49	1:51
February 2:	Sun.	8:33	8:50	1:35	2:22
February 3:	Mon.	9:17	9:34	2:19	2:53
February 4:	Tues.	9:58	10:15	2:59	3:24
February 5:	Wed.	10:39	10:56	3:39	3:57
February 6:	Thurs.	11:19	11:35	4:20	4:32
February 7:	Fri.	11:59	. . .	5:03	5:11
February 8:	Sat.	12:15	12:40	5:52	5:55
February 9:	Sun.	12:57	1:25	6:55	6:49
February 10:	Mon.	1:44	2:19	8:18	7:53
February 11:	Tues.	2:41	3:21	9:34	8:57
February 12:	Wed.	3:47	4:24	10:32	9:54
February 13:	Thurs.	4:49	5:20	11:21	10:47
February 14:	Fri.	5:43	6:10	. . .	12:06
February 15:	Sat.	6:30	6:55	12:01	12:49
February 16:	Sun.	7:15	7:40	12:27	1:28

Phases of the Moon		
	New Moon	February 1st
	First Quarter	February 9th
	Full Moon	February 16h
	Last Quarter	February 23rd

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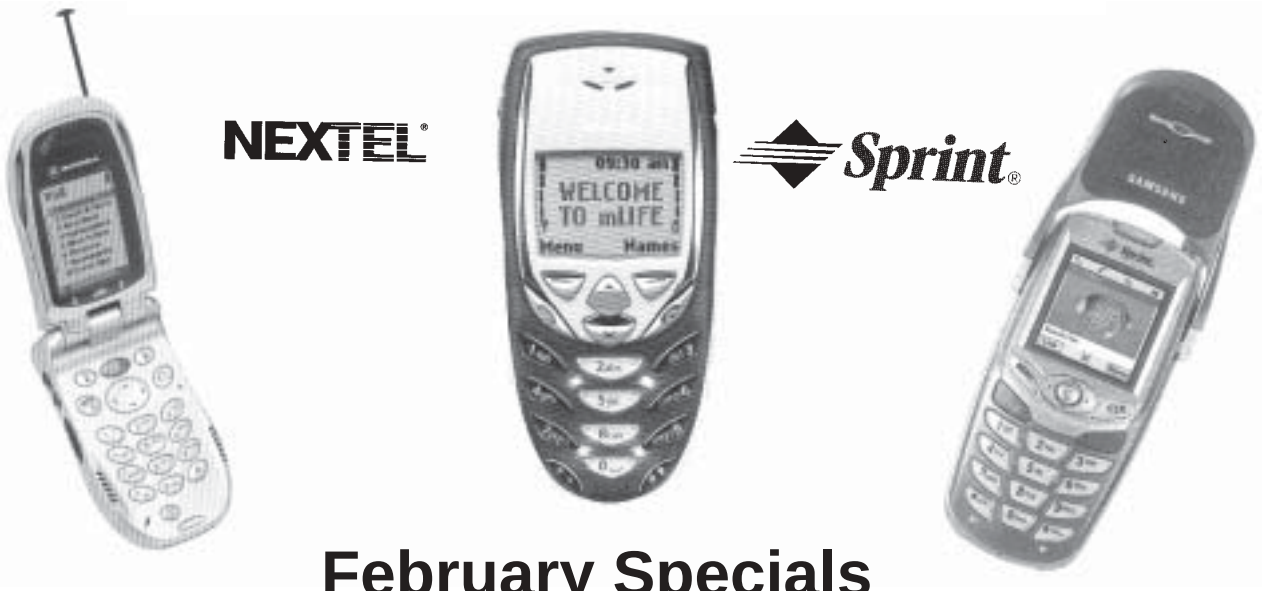

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